

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS

The Senate Passes the Pension Appropriation Bill After a Short Debate.

In Which Matson's Generosity is Mildly Criticized—S. S. Cox, Congressman Mason and Others Discuss the Tariff Question.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—In the Senate, the report of the conference committee on the House bill in regard to the Cincinnati centennial exposition was presented and agreed to.

The pension appropriation was then taken up, the question being on the amendment reported by the committee on appropriations to strike out the words "that in all pensions to widows, payments shall be made from the date of the death of the husband," and to insert "That all payments which have been, or which may hereafter be granted under the general laws relating to pensions to widows, in consequence of death, occurring from a cause which originated in the service since the date of March, 1861, shall commence from the date of the death of the husband."

Mr. Cockrell moved to amend the amendment by striking out the words "which have been, or," so as to confine its application to future pensions. He estimated that the additional cost under the Senate amendment would be \$1,473,000. If his own amendment were adopted the additional cost for 1889 would be \$750,000.

Mr. Blair commented sarcastically on the liberality recently displayed in the House of Representatives toward those who had served on the Union side in the war of the rebellion, commenting particularly on the report of the House committee on pensions to remove the arrearages limitations which would cost a mere bagatelle of \$550,000,000.

Mr. Paddock suggested that the Democratic members of the House committee on pensions should be rebuked, as he understood that the chairman of that committee had been playing altogether "a lone hand."

Mr. Beck inquired the meaning of the phrase "a lone hand," and was informed that if there was any place in the world where the term was perfectly understood it was in Kentucky.

Mr. Beck spoke with some bitterness as to the course of the House committee on pensions, and admitted that both parties were equally to blame for what was called "public opinion," that was, to the efforts of pension agents. He expected, in his opposition to all such measures, to have to fight "a lone hand."

He declared his purpose, whenever the tax bill came before the Senate, to move an income tax, to be applied to pensions, so that the soldiers could be made to pay for the protection of that wealth. The wealthy men who would have to pay the income tax might then try to hold in check the political demagogues of both parties.

Finally, the vote was taken on the amendment offered by Mr. Cockrell, and it was disagreed to—yeas 29, nays 70. Mr. Blair then moved to amend the bill.

Mr. Blodgett voted with the Republicans in the negative. The amendment reported by the committee on appropriations was then agreed to, without division, and the bill was passed.

The Senate then proceeded to business on the calendar and passed, among other bills, the following: The bill to amend the Revised Statutes in relation to timber deposits; the bill to establish a public park in Colorado, to be called the Royal Arch Park.

The Senate then proceeded to execute the business. After the reading of the calendar, the Senate resumed the consideration of the calendar and passed, among other bills and resolutions, the following: Senate joint resolution authorizing Brig. Gen. Abner D. Smith to accept from the President of the French Republic the decoration of commander of the Legion of Honor.

Mr. Blair moved to amend the bill authorizing the Little Rock and Arkansas Valley Company to construct a bridge across Bayou d'Arbonne, La.; the House bill for the protection of United States officials in the Indian Territory; the House bill to authorize the marshals to arrest offenders and fugitives from justice in the Indian Territory; the House bill to authorize the marshals to arrest offenders and fugitives from justice in the Indian Territory.

After passing thirty-five bills, the Senate adjourned till Monday.

Washington, May 17.—Mr. Henderson, of Iowa, presented the conference report on the Cincinnati exposition bill, and it was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Robertson, of Louisiana, a bill was passed to subdivide the Eastern judicial district of Louisiana.

The House then went into committee of the whole—Mr. Springer, of Illinois, in the chair—on the tariff bill.

Mr. Peters, of Kansas, argued that if it was true, as asserted by gentlemen on the other side, that a protective tariff was robbery, the tariff bill only institutionalized robbery. Robbery was a pillaging, a taking away by violence and by wrong. If protection was robbery it was pillaging the people and taking property by violence and wrong. If protection was robbery it was a robbery, and if the tariff bill was a robbery, every Democratic who supported protection was a robber, and if the tariff bill was a free-trade measure every Democratic member of the ways and means committee was a robber.

He reviewed the speeches of the members of the committee on the tariff, and declared that the absurdity of some of the statements therein contained was enough to make a wooden Indian standing in front of a cigar store smile on loud.

Mr. Anderson, of Illinois, antagonized the protective system for having enriched a chosen few, and for having accumulated in the Treasury a dangerous surplus, and he controverted the position that a return to a revenue basis would result in a reduction of the rates of wages to labor. He declared that the manufacturing industries of Illinois had been built up by protection, and asserted that they had become prosperous in spite of the tariff.

Mr. Beechinger, of Kansas, opened his speech with a reference to and an eulogy of the President's annual message, and declared that it had met with great popular favor; that the political adversaries of the Democratic party had sought some point of attack along the line of protection, and that the chief of the opposition forces, who had rushed valiantly into the fight, had taken to flight.

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The advance will be made on the basis of 10 cents on the first and second classes, 5 cents on the third and fourth, and 4 cents on the fifth class. The Burlington and Northern, which are the only roads to advance their rates on traffic from New York to St. Paul via Chicago, which will remain at \$1.01, first-class. The managers will meet again next Tuesday.

Personal, Local and State Notes.
Geo. Sherman, general manager of the Red, White and Midland fast-freight line, is in the city.

Work on the extension of the Cincinnati, Wash and Michigan road to Nashville is to be completed at once. It will pass through Knightstown.

C. S. LaFollette, Western passenger agent of the C. I. St. L. & C., is in the city. He is of the opinion that travel over all of the roads is improving handsomely.

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George Shorey, an engineer on the Wabash, has been promoted to the position of road foreman of engines between Toledo and Danville. Mr. Shorey is one of the veteran engineers on the road and worthy of promotion.

The rate on cattle in car-loads was yesterday reduced between Chicago and Indianapolis from 12 1/2 to 10 cents per 100 pounds; the rate on sheep from 10 to 8 cents. Between Chicago and Ohio river points they were advanced 3/4 cent.

The Indianapolis car-works will get all their old contracts cleared up by June 15, and then, under their contract with the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, will deliver coal cars at the rate of 400 a month, until the contract for 2,000 is filled.

Neil Kerr, who represents the passenger department of the Queen & Crescent route in this section, says that the people ought to have the right to buy where they could buy the cheapest, and gave a description of the working classes, calling on Mr. Mills to ask him why he wished to pay the income tax might then try to hold in check the political demagogues of both parties.

Mr. Mills said: "I want to buy my shoes in England, where I can buy them cheaper, and I want to buy my cloth of other countries to help the spinners and weavers of America, and that he wanted to buy his tools in England, where the wages were just half what they were in this country, to help the poor ironworkers of his country. He said: 'I have never been in a favor of sending a man to the factory for preaching free trade, but when he asks to buy the product of labor in other countries, and announces as the reason that it is cheaper, I think he ought to be sent down for six months, twice a year for fifty years, for hypocrisy.'"

He attacked the Mills bill, saying that it was in the interests of trusts and syndicates, and the sugar trust, which, he said, was one of the largest, if not the largest, trust in the world, that affected the price of any of the necessities of life.

He suggested to the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. Allen] that the comic opera be quoted from was not suited to his style of voice and delivery, and suggested that instead thereof he should sing:

Rock-a-by Sugar Trust, you're on the tree top;
While we are in power you cradle will rock;
But if the tariff trust the cradle will swing,
And down will come Sugar Trust, Mills bill and all.

Or, if he insisted on rising to that higher realm of "Mother Goose," he would suggest:

Little Boy Blue, come blow your horn here;
Blow about of nuttin, but don't touch our rice.
[Great applause and laughter on the Republican side.] He also suggested that the gentleman hold the infant trust in his arms and say, "I threatened to roast you for the sugar trust, but that was a bluff, and that he pass the infant sugar trust to Mr. Mills, who would fondle it and say: "Baby dear, don't cry, you shall have the sugar in the United States."

Cobbins boys can have everything else but sugar. And then he would pass it to the gentleman from Kentucky who would say: "Don't let the little people worry. If our poor old little people should die we would not have anything else to throw at the Republican party." The gentleman from Mississippi complained bitterly because the cows in his State do not have as much milk as they did in New England, and the hens did not lay as many eggs. If there was anything under the heavens that would stop the milk or dry up a cow, it was to be sure brought up under the influence of free trade. The gentleman, however, boasted of their beautiful women and their brave men. They might have very brave men in Mississippi, he said, but then it was another illustration of the saying that "you never can tell the kind of goods a man keeps by the samples he puts on the road."

Mr. Allen, of Mississippi—Are we to judge of your father's skill by his products? Mr. Mason—You are. Anybody who don't like the style of architecture knows what he can do when I am not busy.

Mr. Mason, continuing, said that the majority of the committee on ways and means, six out of seven, came from States lately in the rebellion, and when he went through his district and saw the prosperous manufacturing and business men there, and realized that the gentlemen on the other side had no sympathy with the rebellion, then it ground him to think that the affairs of his district should be in the hands of such men.

A few years ago, when the brigadiers got back into Congress, the medical staff was working very well, but now it did not fit their case. Said he: "You are back in your father's house because he caught you by the nose of the neck and the head of your nose and brought you back. You did not say, 'Father, I have sinned against thee; I am not worthy to be one of the family, make me a house.' That is not the kind of people you are. You come from the front door, wipe your feet on the carpet and try to drink out of the fire extinguisher. You do not wait for the fatted calf; you put your feet on the table and say, 'What I want is a pig.'"

[Laughter.] When the Republicans talked about protecting any of the enterprises in the manufacturing States, the Democrats insisted on incorporating into the law of the United States a plank that was in the Constitution of the Southern Confederacy. The people were getting very weary of it, and next fall they would take the prodigal son and gently send him back to the house of a defeated Democracy, while your leader—his one-termness—will be promoted to the highest position in the government of the United States, to the private life. He also declared himself against the proposition of free whisky, saying that whisky was not only a pauper-breeder, but a pauper-breeder of the Democratic party, and that he was in favor of taking off the tax on alcohol used in the manufacture of whisky.

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A few years ago, when the brigadiers got back into Congress, the medical staff was working very well, but now it did not fit their case. Said he: "You are back in your father's house because he caught you by the nose of the neck and the head of your nose and brought you back. You did not say, 'Father, I have sinned against thee; I am not worthy to be one of the family, make me a house.' That is not the kind of people you are. You come from the front door, wipe your feet on the carpet and try to drink out of the fire extinguisher. You do not wait for the fatted calf; you put your feet on the table and say, 'What I want is a pig.'"

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